

# e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 60

May 2013

No. 5



## Calendar

Fri., Apr. 19	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> in PO lobby	Sat., May 11	Women's Club, Venus d Minor a cappella concert, Town Hall, 7:30 pm (see p 2)
Sat., Apr. 20	GIVES at Farmer's Market, 9 am–1 pm; Farmer's Market continues weekly (until Thanksgiving)	Mon., May 13	Town Council meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm
Wed., Apr. 24	Citizens Association meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm; Candidates Forum (see statements pp 7, 8)	Tues., May 14	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline, 4 pm
Fri., Apr. 26	Film Society, <i>Rebecca</i> , Town Hall; dinner 7 pm, film 8 pm	Thurs., May 16	GPES Instrumental Music concert, School, 7:30 pm; GP Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm
Sun., Apr. 28	Weed Warrior Day, Porcupine Woods, 10 am–2 pm (see p 2)	Sat., May 18	GIVES at Farmer's Market, 9 am–1 pm
Tues., Apr. 30	Dues payment deadline for the Swimming Pool (see p 6)	Sun., May 19	Youth Art Show reception, Town Hall, 12 to 1:30 pm (p 6); Musicale, Town Hall, 4 pm (p 5)
Wed., May 1	Kindergarten Orientation for next year's kindergartners; call GPES for information (301-929-2170)	Wed., May 22	Citizens Association meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm, topic TBD
Thurs., May 2	GP Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm	Fri., May 24	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at Penn Place lobby
Sat., May 4	GIVES collection, Penn Place lobby, 9 am–1 pm; Women's Club Progressive Dinner, from 6 pm	Sat., May 25	Pool opens, 10 am, Memorial Day picnic, 5 pm; Memorial service for John Wilpers, Town Hall, 1 pm (note date change; see p 3)
Sun., May 5	Art at Penn Place reception, Garrett Park Invitational, 3 to 5 pm (see p 2)	Mon., May 27	Memorial Day; No trash collection
Mon., May 6	Voting, Post Office lobby, 7 am–7:30 pm; Swearing-in party, Town Hall, 9 pm, results expected by 9:30 pm	Tues., May 28	GPES Spring Chorus Concert, School, 7:30 pm

## Wide-Ranging Town Council Meeting

All Councilmembers attended the April Town Council meeting. To start with the item that was raised at the end of the meeting, it appears that the following three people will be running for the expiring Council slots of Chris Petito, Jack Mandel, and Phil Schulp:

- Phil Schulp is running again (nominated at the March Citizens Association meeting);
- Kacky Chantry is running by petition; and

- Joanna Welch is running by petition).

The entire Council thanked Jack and Chris for their excellent service on the Council.

The first substantive item on the agenda was the demolition permit for 11110 Kenilworth, a post-World War II one-story house sitting on a large lot. While the Historic Preservation Committee regretted the destruction of a modestly sized house and reiterated its preference for reno-

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vation over destruction, it indicated that it saw no legal reason why a demolition permit should not be granted. Somewhat shockingly, the new owner said that the house had been stripped of copper piping and other salvageable items while the house was unoccupied. He also indicated that the costs of renovation would be twice the cost of new construction. The Council unanimously approved demolition, after the owner said that he would have no objection if the Historic Preservation Committee took documentary photos—both inside and outside—before demolition begins.

The second substantive item was approval of the FY 2014 budget. This, too, was unanimously approved. The operating budget is \$972,148 (slightly less than the 2013 operating budget) and the capital improvement/all other budget is \$94,672. Revenues of \$1,066,820 will match those expenses.

The third item discussed was progress on hiring a new Town Manager. The field has been winnowed to four candidates. These four have been interviewed and have had an opportunity to walk through the town. A selection is likely before the May election.

The fourth item took up most of the time of the meeting: recommendations of the Town Hall rental policy committee. The committee, chaired by Dick Fischman, presented its findings to the Council, which is likely to pass a resolution on the recommendations within the next month or two. The recommendations are too nuanced to summarize in this short write-up, but the Garrett Park resident fee for the Town Hall would be retained at \$125 per day, and many town activities would continue at the Town Hall free of cost. After an hour of discussion of various “what if” scenarios, Mayor Benjamin closed the discussion by stating that “we have had a fulsome discussion.” One might be tempted to say that the discussion was almost Talmudic.

Ken Schwartz

## A Cappella at Town Hall

The Women’s Club presents “Venus d Minor” at the Town Hall on Saturday, May 11, at 7:30 pm. The concert features our neighbor Amy DeLouise. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door, and half of the ticket sales will benefit Garrett Park Women’s Club!

Started in spring of 1995, Venus d Minor is a women’s a cappella octet that performs in a wide variety of musical styles. From pop to jazz standards, from classical to new wave, Venus brings its unique sound and brand of humor to audiences around the Washington, D.C. area.

For advance tickets, go to [www.venusdminor.com](http://www.venusdminor.com), or e-mail [venusdminor@gmail.com](mailto:venusdminor@gmail.com). Include your phone number and good time to call.

## First Garrett Park Invitational

We have had a strange situation in Garrett Park these last few years—we’ve had so many in-town artists wanting shows that we have not been able to show the work of our out-of-town friends. It’s hard to say “too many artists” is a problem, and yet it has not been easy to say no to artists living as nearby as Kensington. The Art Committee has responded by starting an Invitational for artists who live in Montgomery County, but who do not live in town. It is a curated show (this first year by Nicole Reindorf of Boston); 18 pieces have been chosen, and a Best-in-Show winner will be announced at the opening. The winner’s prize will be a solo show in the gallery next year. Ms. Reindorf has chosen a show of amazing diversity in both style and artistic method. It will be mounted May 5, with a reception (from 3 to 5) catered by Black Market Bistro. I hope many of you will come out to celebrate this exciting new town event.

Vicki Bailly

## Calling All Weed Warriors

Please be sure to put Sunday, April 28, from 10 am until 2 pm on your calendar for the Arbo-retum Committee’s Annual Weed Warrior Day. Join the committee, town arborist Phil Normandy, and neighbors and friends to help spruce up Porcupine Woods, next to the town Post Office, and help remove the invasive species that can harm the beauty of this wilderness area within our town. Although some tools will be provided, please feel free to bring some light gardening equipment (such as shovels, clippers, and weed pullers). Be sure to wear long pants and shirts, and bring garden gloves.

Light refreshment will be provided.

## Graduates Wanted

For our annual list of high school and college graduates, please call me with names, places graduated from, and future plans; call by June 5 to make it into the last issue before the *Bugle* goes on summer hiatus.

Mary Moyer

The Garrett Bugle is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the Bugle is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

**Citizens Association Officers:**  
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First-class subscriptions cost \$15 (bulk mail subscriptions are no longer available). Letters to the editor can be submitted by mail or hand to Bugle staff or by e-mail through the town Web site: [www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php](http://www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php). The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Town Administrator Notes

Town elections will be held Monday, May 6. Three seats on the Town Council are on the ballot. Please be sure to vote.

*Candidates for Town Council.* At the Garrett Park Citizens Association Nominating Meeting held on March 27, Councilmember Phil Schulp was nominated for re-election. As of April 10, Kathryn Chantry and Joanna Welch have been nominated by petition. Nomination by petition closes on April 15, which is after the *Bugle* has gone to press, so any more nominations will be announced on Tuesday, April 16.

Prior registration is required; all citizen voters must be on the Montgomery County voter rolls; noncitizens must be registered with the town.

*Absentee ballots.* There are two types of absentee ballots: The regular absentee ballots are available from the Town Office until 4 pm on May 1. After May 1, late absentee ballots will be available at the Town Office and on Election Day from the Judges of Election at the polls. Voters requiring absentee ballots need to file an application. Applications are available from the Town Office or can be downloaded off the town’s Web site, [garrettpark-md.gov](http://garrettpark-md.gov). The Clerk or Judges must receive absentee ballots before the polls close at 7:30 pm on Election Day if they are to be counted.

*Hours of voting.* Voting hours for the election on Monday, May 6, will be 7 am to 7:30 pm, in the Post Office lobby, Penn Place.

*Election reception at Town Hall.* The Town Hall bell will be rung before the election results are announced. The evening will include a swearing-in ceremony and reception, which starts at 9 pm. We expect the results will be available by 9:30 pm, so plan to come and greet the newly elected Councilmembers.

*Judges of Election.* Natalie Grande, Suzanne Grefsheim, and Cliff Tarpy will serve as Judges. The Judges will appoint a number of poll workers to assist them.

*Fiscal Year 2014 Budget.* At its regular meeting on April 8, the Council adopted the FY 2014 Operating and Capital Budget. Copies of the budget are available at the Town Office and will also be posted on the town Web site.

The FY 2014 budget leaves the tax rate unchanged at 21 cents per \$100 of value, and anticipates a 1-percent decline in operating revenues to \$1,066,820, as compared to this year’s budget of \$1,075,365. There are no transfers from available funds in the town’s treasury, so the total revenues budgeted for FY 2014 will be \$1,066,820, a decrease of 19 percent from FY 2013’s budgeted receipts and transfers of \$1,321,052.

These receipts will fund \$972,148 in operating expenses, a decrease of \$4,582 (–0.5 percent) from FY 2013. The transfer to the capital program is \$85,672, a significant decrease of \$251,650 from this year’s budget. However, when combined with

unexpended appropriations from prior years, the town will have \$526,614 available for capital projects at the start of FY 2014. Total operating reserves will remain at \$175,000.

It is expected that the Council will review funding options available to the town to return to road reconstruction that was begun in 2009, and present these to the town for consideration in FY 2014. The town has also applied for a state grant to construct new sidewalks as part of the “Safe Routes to School” program.

*Thank you.* The entire town staff, Elizabeth, Butch, Frank, and Jose, joins with me to congratulate and thank Jack Mandel and Chris Petito for their service to the town. We all have enjoyed working with them, and wish them some relaxation in their retirement from public office.

Ted Pratt, Town Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

Attention Town Gardeners

If you are thinking of visiting the local garden center to buy plants this spring, consider waiting until Thursday, May 2, to see what is available at the Bethesda Community Garden Club Plant Sale. You will find a wide variety of plants, some hard to find or costly at the nursery, selling at very reasonable prices and grown in the well-tended gardens of club members, including several Garrett Park gardens.

Annuals, perennials, herbs, and native plants and shrubs will be on offer from 7 am to 1 pm at the Bethesda Farm Women’s Market at 7155 Wisconsin Avenue (metered parking in the lot behind the market). Don’t miss out on this great opportunity to beautify Garrett Park and your garden—and save money, too. More information about the club and the plant sale is at [bcgc.esiteasp.com](http://bcgc.esiteasp.com).

Suzanne Grefsheim

**Date change for Wilpers memorial**

A memorial mass for John Wilpers will be held at 12 noon at Holy Cross Church, followed by a reception at the Town Hall beginning about 1 to 1:30 pm. Those who do not attend the mass are invited to come directly to the Town Hall.

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## Obituary

### Mary Taber Honey

Mary Taber Honey died peacefully on March 16 at Hill Haven Nursing Home in Adelphi, Maryland, at the age of 94. Her family was with her in her final days, and she was under hospice care.

Mary was born November 2, 1918, in Providence, Rhode Island, the only child of Norman Stephen Taber and Ottelie Metzger Taber. She grew up in Providence, where she graduated from the Lincoln School, a private Quaker school. Her father, Norman Taber, went to Brown University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar and Olympian as a middle distance runner. He won bronze and gold medals in the 1912 Olympics, and in 1915, he set the world record for the mile, which he held till 1923.

Mary attended Vassar College, graduating with a degree in economics in 1940. While at Vassar she met John (Jack) Honey, who was attending Bard College. They were married in 1941.

Mary went on to receive a master's degree in social work from Columbia University and continued on to work in the field. For several decades, she worked with adoption agencies in Maryland; Westport, Connecticut; and Syracuse, New York. Towards the end of her career, she was instrumental in promoting international adoptions, especially with the Republic of Korea.

During their 70-year marriage, Jack and Mary raised three children and lived happily for long periods in Garrett Park; Westport, Connecticut; Fayetteville, New York; and Rhinebeck, New York. Lifelong Democrats, Mary and Jack were actively involved in civic affairs in each of these communities. They also had a vacation home in Carriacou, Grenada, in the West Indies, where they developed many deep friendships.

Mary loved sports and was a devoted Mets fan as well as a great follower of Syracuse basketball. She was an active tennis, ping-pong, croquet, and Scrabble player, and loved friendly competition.

Mary, a widow since 2011, is survived by her three children: Martha, Stephen (Tim), and Margaret; six grandchildren: Shanti, Jody, Deta, Kristen, Ryan, and John; and three great-grandchildren: Nyala, James, and Amani. She is also survived by her childhood friend Mary (Pusscat) Barrett and her long time companion, Fran Avirgan, the mother of Martha's husband, Tony.

Her ashes will be buried next to her husband in the Rhinebeck cemetery, where a service will be held later this spring. The family asks that instead of flowers, contributions be sent to the Rhinebeck Farmers Market Scholarship Fund, which is in the name of her husband.

Contributions should be mailed to Rhinebeck Farmers Market, P.O. Box 431, Rhinebeck, New York 12572.

## Bugle Notes . . . Sweet and Sour

- ♪ New grandparents in town! Ken and Nancy Schwartz announce the birth of their first granddaughter, born on March 20 to daughter Claire and her husband Adam. They are currently living in Baltimore while dad teaches at Johns Hopkins.
- ♪ Calling all teenagers (and older types) who want to earn some money doing jobs this summer such as baby sitting, pet sitting, or yard work. The Town Office is now collecting names, ages, phone numbers, and the type of job that you are looking for. Please note if you have had training, especially in the baby sitting category. Call the office (301-933-7488) to be included.
- ♪ Mary Moyer is looking for anyone in town who has an Acadia SUV (or its Chevy counterpart). She is thinking about buying one and would like some opinions. Call her. Thanks.
- ♪ From the past: did you know there was a swimming hole on Rock Creek used by the Garrett Park youngsters before the swimming pool was built? From a letter from Lawrence Ingeberg in the Town Archives we have the

following: "Some years back Rock Creek was straightened behind Randolph Hills. It used to flow behind the Veirs Mill Rec center. There was a curve in there and it was about 8 feet deep. The older boys of Garrett Park would build a dam about four feet high that worked good just downstream from the swimming hole. It washed out every winter but they would all get together and rebuild it in the spring. Randolph Hills was a big cornfield at that time."

David Altar  
David.Altar1@gmail.com

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# Citizens Association News

Town arborist Phil Normandy came to our March meeting to discuss the trees of Garrett Park. If he could have left you with one message, it would be “Don’t park on tree roots!”

Mr. Normandy walks through town looking for hazardous trees, trees that need pruning, and places where there are tree planting opportunities. To diagnose problem trees, he looks for early leaf color changes, wounds, decay, and mushrooms, but he warned that a visual inspection will not be 100 percent predictive of problems.

What can you do about trees you are worried about? Get a respected company to thin the crown. Don’t “top” any tree, because the new growth can actually be more fragile. Remove turf grass from around trees and use decaying wood chips around the base. If you want to replace trees, plant shorter trees or trees with a stronger grain like American elms and sycamores. He discourages planting locust and tulip trees.

Mr. Normandy also mentioned that Pepco has been proactive in working with the town. While residents may have a negative impression of Pepco’s tree work, Mr. Normandy has had a positive experience with the work that they have been doing in town. Pepco took down a whole block of Siberian elms for the town that would have cost \$2000 to \$3000 each. Pepco also nicely trimmed a beech tree on Keswick and was generally sensitive when trimming town trees near wires.

*April meeting.* Join the debate! Join us at the Town Hall on Wednesday, April 24, at 8 pm, when the candidates for Town Council will talk about their visions if elected.

*Future meetings.* We have been chatting about topics for future meetings of the CA. Some ideas include an outdoor movie to celebrate the end of school (save the date—weekend of June 7), an Indian cooking mini-course in May, and more. Do you have an idea for a meeting topic that you feel would be of interest to the town? If so, please contact Michael Lutkenhouse or send a note to Box 456.

*Annual dues.* The Citizens Association 2013 annual dues are being collected. The annual dues are \$10 for individuals and \$20 per family. Thank you to all of those who have already paid. For those who have not, please submit dues by mailing them to the Citizens Association at Box 456.

*Garrett Park listserv.* To join this electronic forum, which allows neighbors to communicate information about town concerns, safety issues, upcoming events, and recommended services, e-mail Todd Harris or sign in at [groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join).

*Questions or comments for the Citizens Association?* If so, please send a note to P.O. Box 456 or e-mail Michael Lutkenhouse.

# 17th Annual Spring Musicale!

The Ilah Gieser Memorial Music Scholarship holds its major fund-raiser on Sunday, May 19, at 4 pm, following the Youth Art Exhibit. Your neighbors will present folk music, classical, jazz, original compositions, and choral works, featuring piano, guitar, cello, winds, brass, and more. Earnest and fun, the program highlights the multitude of hidden talent in town.

Want to join in the fun? All musical contributions welcome! Just call Sue Petito.

Eclectic and inclusive, our joyful music-making will ensure the next scholarship. Come join the audience while admiring the offerings of our Youth Art Show. Hope to see you there!

# Green Again

Our banner is green this month in honor and loving memory of Ruby Freer, mother of Sandy Freer Walter of Brookville, Maryland. This April would have been Ruby’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. “Ruby and husband Charlie moved to Garrett Park in 1950, and they raised their three children (Sandy, Rob, and John) here. She was active in scouts and PTA activities at GPES and worked at the post office in the 60’s and 70’s. She is still remembered by neighbors for her rum cake which she gave to new residents, vegetable soup to those who were sick, and BBQ to backyard picnics. She enjoyed visits from her seven grandchildren and attending baseball and soccer games played by her three oldest grandsons. She now has three great-grandsons. Happy birthday, Mom and Mommom. The Freer and Walter families.” Our thanks to Sandy for this tribute to her mom.

If you would like to join in the “greening” of the *Bugle*, please make out a check to the Citizens Association for \$45 and mail it to me at Box 98. The \$45 goes toward paying for the green banner on our first page. Many thanks.

And remember, your Citizens Association dues pay for the *Bugle* as well as events like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities and Spooky Woods in October. Please send dues to Box 456, Garrett Park 20896, and the Citizens Association will have money in the coffers for upcoming events.

Mary Moyer



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# Second Youth Art Show

All young artists in Garrett Park are invited to submit work for a Town Hall show on May 19.

The first Garrett Park Youth Art Show was a triumph, showcasing the work of 20 young Garrett Park artists and receiving photo coverage in the *Gazette*. This year, the show will be combined with the annual musicale to create a multimedia extravaganza!

The young artists (where “young” includes young people still living at home in GP) can bring work created at school, at home, or in art classes. As in the first show, work can be sculpture, jewelry, photography, paintings, or just about anything else. Artists should bring two works for consideration. Curators from the Garrett Park Art Committee will choose which piece will be included in the show.

To exhibit, please bring the work to the Town Hall on Sunday, May 19 (morning of show), between 10 am and 12 pm. The artists’ reception (light refreshments provided by the GP Women’s Club) is from 12 to 1:30 pm. The work will remain on exhibit during the musicale, which begins at 4 pm. Artists may pick up their work between 6 and 6:30 pm, after the musicale concludes.

This is a great opportunity for your child to receive feedback from professional artists! This event is open to children residing in the town of Garrett Park. See you at the show!

Visit Garrett Park’s Web site:  
[www.garrettpark-md.gov](http://www.garrettpark-md.gov)

## Pool Dues and News

The Pool Board is excited for another great year for the Garrett Park Swimming Pool. The pool gates open Saturday, May 25. We look forward to a great season of swim and sun!

Pool members, please note that we have moved the deadline for annual pool membership dues to April 30; we have also increased the late fee (\$100) assessed on dues submitted after April 30. If we do not hear from members by May 25, their summer membership will be forfeited. These changes will help us better manage our waiting list and ensure sufficient resources for the summer. The Web site has all the forms needed to register: [www.garrettparkpool.com](http://www.garrettparkpool.com). Address questions to [membership@garrettparkpool.com](mailto:membership@garrettparkpool.com).

Krista Reilly, Pool Board Member

## Letter to the Editor

### We Are The Invasive Species

Beautification of Porcupine Woods has begun. Perhaps we should rename it Porcupine Park. During deliberations leading to the “cleanup” much mention was made of “invasive species” and bamboo. Unless birds from Florida or points south deposited bamboo seeds (which seems unlikely) someone planted the bamboo. One wonders who, when, and their opinion of reducing the bamboo. It seems to me that the planter is a member of the invasive species. This “tempest in a teapot” reminds me of Nero playing his fiddle while Rome burned or straightening the deck chairs on the Titanic as it sank (both probably myths).

If we step back and take a broader view we see that in North and South America our species, *Homo sapiens*, is the main invasive species: first, the Indians invaded from Asia across the land bridge to Alaska—their occupancy was relatively benign environmentally; later, Europeans crossed the Atlantic and brought Africans with them—their occupancy was and still is far from benign. We have fouled our nest and will quite possibly pay the ultimate price—extinction. In other words it may be all over within the lifetime of children now in elementary school. Unless the residents of this planet unite and take bold action soon to invent, implement, and distribute enough renewable energy resources—solar, wind, geothermal, fusion, etc.—to replace fossil fuel and if possible, reduce CO<sub>2</sub> in the air, our future looks

grim: rising oceans—less land—more crowding, less food and less clean air and water and quite possibly nuclear war to “resolve” conflicts are among our prospects. (Other crises not caused by humans are less probable but also less predictable and thus less preventable: a large meteorite collision, earthquakes, and a very virulent virus mutation.) What can we in Garrett Park do about this? First, individually write to our elected representatives at all levels about our concerns. Second, collectively organize into a group, demonstrate, invite speakers, etc. Third, more ambitiously, we might build windmills, solar panel farms, or both on Cambria tennis courts to at least reduce our dependence on Pepco. I believe we are a creative community with many better ideas.

Jim Agenbroad

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## Letter from the Mayor

As we approach our town election on May 6, we say goodbye to two Town Councilmembers, Jack Mandel and Chris Petito, who have served six and four years on the Council, respectively. These two dedicated public servants have contributed generously of their time and unique skills in order to help our town to provide the services upon which we depend, to meet the challenges of today, and to develop our future as a cohesive and caring community that values its history, its environment, and its residents. Our Councilmembers serve without financial remuneration. Their reward is knowing that they have contributed to their fellow citizens and to their town. We extend to them our appreciation and thanks for a job well done.

Please vote on May 6 at Penn Place. Polls are open from 7 am until 7:30 pm. Then join us for the announcement of the results and the swearing in of new Councilmembers, as well as refreshments, at about 9:30 pm. The Town Hall bell will be rung when the results have been tabulated. We will have two events to mark the end of the service of our current town administrator and to introduce our new town manager, probably in June, with no dates announced as of the writing of this letter.

Much of the last Town Council meeting was devoted to the discussion of an excellent, thorough, and thoughtful report submitted by the Town Hall policy committee. The committee focused on the philosophy and policies which the town applies when renting the Town Hall. The committee suggested that the purpose of the

Town Hall is to serve community needs rather than to make money through rentals. Thus the committee concluded that the facility should be available at no fee for town functions, for a specified list of resident-based groups, and for free presentations by Garrett Park residents to the public. The committee recommended that the rental rates for town residents be retained at the current level of \$125 per day and that rates for nonresidents be increased from \$500 to \$600 a day, and (recognizing the wear and tear on the facility due to rentals) recommended adequate security deposits. The committee also recommended reduced rental rates of \$300 per day for residents of Garrett Park Estates and White Flint Park, as well as employees of the Garrett Park Elementary School, Nursery School, Day Care Center, Swimming Pool, and Post Office. Special provisions were proposed for memorial services, recurring classes open to town residents, and a small number of "grandfathered" activities. It was an extensive and comprehensive review aimed at making the rental policies consistent and clear. After extensive discussion it was decided to develop a resolution incorporating the proposals and recommendations for consideration by the Council at a future meeting. The committee report is posted on the town Web site for your review. If you have comments, you can give them to any Town Councilmember or me, e-mail them to me at [peter.gpmayor@verizon.net](mailto:peter.gpmayor@verizon.net), or come to the meeting at which the resolution will be considered for adoption.

Peter Benjamin

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## Candidates' Statements

The following statements were received from candidates for the Town Council.

### **Kathryn (Kacky) Chantry**

As I write this, I realize that this May will be my 15<sup>th</sup> year in Garrett Park. Outside of my hometown of Poughkeepsie, NY, this is the place I have lived the longest. And what a place it has been! My husband, Dennis Collins (some of you may know him as the Garrett Park Massage therapist), and I moved here from Kensington in 1998, seeking better schools for our two children (now teenagers), and a home to suit our growing family and Dennis' massage practice. We couldn't have picked a better place! We settled in amidst wonderful neighbors on "Lower Rokeby," at the corner of Rokeby and Kenilworth. We added on to our house and to its wonderful landscape, creating more gardens (including a rain garden) and winding walking paths. Our kids have grown up here, going first to Holy Cross Elementary and then to Garrett Park Elementary, then Tilden M.S., and now Walter Johnson H.S. We count our blessings every day.

There is no better place to live than Garrett Park. Our town provides so many things tangible and intangible:

- our arboretum with the incredible canopy of trees that keep us cooler in the summer (lower energy bills!) and provide a colorful palette in the fall;
- our post office, our restaurant, and our farmer's market that provide informal forums for neighborly chats and spontaneous greetings, which help to keep us grounded and connected to one another; and
- our town governance, publicly elected and voluntarily served, that allows us to choose what we want to make of this wonderful town; and how we can make it happen.

These examples are also illustrative of Garrett Park's rich heritage and strong community spirit, which I want to protect and to which I want to contribute.

About me: I am a consensus builder, always willing to listen to all viewpoints, which has

served me well during my 25+ years of public service (including the US Army). I have worked in many different federal agencies and different work cultures with a focus on business operations and budget. As a senior manager I have been responsible for agency resources, including agency budgets—from \$18 million to \$13 billion. I also have established agencywide programs, including, most recently, three provisions of the Affordable Care Act. Over the years, as budgets have been cut and resources have dwindled, I have learned to think outside the box and negotiate for win-win outcomes. These are the same skills that I will bring as an effective Councilmember.

In my free time, I like to run and garden and walk our dog, Jenna, the barkless but singing basenji, who thinks she’s still in Africa hunting lions with her pack (me and the kids!).

If I am elected I will

- continue working on the Mayor’s Finance Team, leveraging my financial expertise to ensure that our operating budget reflects the best interests of our town;
- encourage green initiatives, such as alternative energy practices (I save a great deal of gas money by riding an all-electric scooter);
- develop strategies to complement the Safe Routes to School project (e.g., identifying homes as a “sanctuary” to protect our children and our elderly from harm’s way);
- be your advocate, be resourceful, and help build consensus; and
- balance progress with harmony while safeguarding our town’s heritage.

After all, “there is no better place to live than Garrett Park,” and I want to work with you to make sure it continues to be.

Please join me on May 6 to vote... and to vote for me! Thank you.

**Phil Schulp (incumbent)**

I’m Phil Schulp. Vote for me to represent you again as a Garrett Park Councilmember.

I am honored to have been nominated again to represent the citizens of Garrett Park for a third term and am eager to continue serving on the Town Council during this period of major transition. As you are aware, Ted Pratt, our Town Administrator, has announced his retirement effective June. The Council and Mayor are in the process of searching for his replacement. As of this writing, two of my fellow Councilmembers have chosen to not seek reelection. I believe it is important to maintain stability on the Council as the new Administrator and Councilmembers acclimate to their responsibilities.

I was born in Rochester, New York. In spring, 2004, my wife Jean Horan, our daughter (now age 10 and in fourth grade at Garrett Park Elemen-

tary), and I found the perfect home—one that borders the train tracks. I am an electrical engineer and work for an international firm that builds passenger railroad cars. I love everything about trains.

The Town Council will address the following issues in the next few years:

- dealing with deferred road maintenance;
- undertaking repairs (and possible renovation) of the Town Hall;
- maintaining our aging arboretum; and
- improving and updating the streetscape around Penn Place.

I will continue to serve the town by

- being accountable to you, the citizens;
- working in an open, clear, and transparent manner;
- finding practical, cost-effective solutions to challenges; and
- writing thoughtfully crafted, clear, and precise legislation while protecting the town from potential vulnerabilities.

I ask for your vote, and I look forward to representing your interests for the next two years. Please feel free to contact me via e-mail or in person, if you would like to share your views on living in Garrett Park. Thank you.

**Joanna Welch**

When my husband Darren and I were looking to buy our first home seven years ago, we fell in love with Garrett Park. It had everything we were looking for: streets safe enough for kids to ride their bikes alone, well-maintained homes, an easy commute to DC, an open and welcoming sense of community.

In the intervening years, our family has grown. Our daughter, who now goes to Garrett Park Nursery School, was born in 2010. Our son was born just two months ago. Our house has also grown. In 2011 we tore down our charming (quirky might be a better description) 70-year-old cottage on Kenilworth Avenue. After 18 months we moved in to our beautiful Arts & Crafts dream come true. The investment wasn’t just for us. It was a vote of confidence in Garrett Park. Put simply, we want to grow old here. And I want to do my part to ensure the essence of Garrett Park remains in 40 years.

I’m running for Town Council to be a voice for young families and newcomers. While I love the Garrett Park of today, the only way the town can maintain its character, charm, and sense of community is by infusing new ideas and perspectives. I would appreciate the chance to lend my energies to the cause. Please vote Joanna Welch on May 6.